

BROWNE VISCOUNT MONTAGUE

ARMS: Sable three lions passant in bend between two double cotises argent

CREST: On a wreath an eagle displayed vert

Sir Anthony Browne Knight c1350-
(K.B.) 1377

chn: Robert Browne [1] b c1380 below
Stephen Browne [2] b c1384; (Lord Mayor, London) 1439

Sir Robert Browne Knight c1380-
chn: Thomas Browne below

Sir Thomas Browne Knight c1420-?1460
(Treasurer of the Household)

m Eleanor Fitz Alan dau and coheir of Sir Thomas Fitz Alan Knight c1400-a1431
[? d 20 Jul 1460]

chn: George Browne [1] (of Betchworth, Kent); (knighted) [see VIS.KENT.1619 217]
Anthony Browne [?] below
William Browne [?] (had no chn)
Thomas Browne [4]
Robert Browne [5] (knighted) [see VIS.KENT.1619 217]

Sir Anthony Browne Knight c1460-

m c1494 Lucy Neville dau and coheir of John Neville 1st Marquess of Montagu c1431-
1471 [CP]; m1 Sir Thomas Fitzwilliam of Aldwark in Tickhill, Yorks Knight c1454-
.... QV

[? i St Nicholas, Calais]

(Standard Bearer of England)

chn: Anthony Browne below

Elizabeth Browne m Henry Somerset (lord of Worces[sic]) [? c1496-1549]

Lucy Browne [? m Thomas Clifford c1502-1543]

Lucy Browne m Sir John Cutt of Childerleigh, Cambs Knt c1500-....
[VIS.CAMBS.1619 31]

[?] William Browne

[?] Henry Browne

Ann Browne m Charles Brandon 1st Duke of Suffolk c1480-1545

CHECK CP FOR SUFFOLK AND INDEX FOR HIS DAUGHTERS

Sir Anthony Browne of Battle Abbey, Sussex K.G. ?1500-1548

[? b 29 Jun 1500]

m1 Alice Gage dau of Sir John Gage of Firle, Sussex K.G. 1479-1556 [BP] [DNB];
(living) Jul 1540

m2 Elizabeth Fitzgerald dau of Gerald Fitzgerald 9th Earl of Kildare [I.] 1487-1534
QV; b c1528 Maynooth; m2 (post marriage settlement, 1 Oct 1552) Edward Clinton 1st
Earl of Lincoln 1512-1585 [CP]; d Mar 1589.90; i St George Chapel, Windsor; Will
(PCC) 15 Apr 1589/13 Mar 1589.90 [abstract CP]; (known as "The Fair Geraldine")
d 6 May 1548

(by grant, held Battle Abbey) 15 Aug 1538; (as heir of his half-brother

WHO

Earl of Southampton, held Cowdray, Sussex) 1543

(knighted) 1523; (Esquire of the Body) 1524; (Ambassador to France) 1528 1533; (Master of the
Horse) 1539; (K.G.) 1540; (Justice in Eyre) 1545; (Capt. of the King's Pensioners) [DNB]

chn: Anthony Browne [1] b 1526 [DNB] below

Thomas Browne [2]

William Browne [3]

Mabel Browne m (by London licence, 28 May 1554) 29 May 1554 Chapel Royal: Gerald
Fitzgerald 11th Earl of Kildare [I.] 1525-1585 QV; d 25 Aug 1610;

i Kildare; Will (PCI) 24 Jan 1608

Lucia Browne m Thomas Roper of Eltham, Kent c1525-1597 [COLLINS VII 81]; i 10
Jul 1606 St Dunstan, Canterbury

Mary Browne m c1546 "Lord" John Grey of Pirgo, Essex c1523-1564 QV

Sir Anthony Browne 1st Viscount Montagu 1526-1592

b 1526 [DNB]

m1 Jane Radcliffe dau of Robert Radcliffe 1st Earl of Sussex c1483-1542 [BP] [..]

[DNB]; b c1533; d in childbed 22 Jul 1552 aged 20 Cowdray; i 4 Aug 1552 Midhurst
m2 a10 Dec 1558 Magdalen Dacre dau of William Dacre 3rd Baron Dacre (of Gilsland)
1500-1563 [CP]; b 1538 Naworth Castle, Cumberland; d 8 Apr 1608 Battle;
i Midhurst; Will (PCC) 24 Apr 1608

d 19 Oct 1592 West Horsley, Surrey; i 6 Dec 1592 Midhurst; Will (PCC) 19 Jul 1592/14
Mar 1592ù3; IPM (Midhurst) 19 Apr 1593

(of Battle Abbey and Cowdray Park, Sussex)

(a Catholic); (K.B. at Edward VI's coronation) 20 Feb 1547; (M.P., Guildford) 1547-52; (Sheriff,
Surrey & Sussex) 10 Nov 1552; (M.P., Petersfield) 1553(1); (M.P., Stafford and Petersfield,
preferring Petersfield) 1553(2); (K.G.) 23 Apr/17 Oct 1555; (M.P., Surrey) 1554; (created
VISCOUNT MONTAGU) 2 Sep 1554; (Master of the Horse) Sep 1554; (P.C.) 28 Apr 1557 [CP]
[DNB]

chn: Anthony Browne [1] b Jul 1552 below

Mary Browne [1] m1 Henry Wriothesley 2nd Earl of Southampton [..]; m2

Sir Thomas Heneage Knight; m3 William Hervey 1st Baron Hervey-1642 [..]

[?] Elizabeth Browne [2] m Robert Dormer 1st Baron Dormer c1547-1616 [BP] [COLLINS
VII 69] [..]

[2] George Browne [2] (of Wickham, Kent)

Thomas Browne [3] (had no chn)

Henry Browne [4] (of Kiddington, Oxon) [see VIS.OXON.1669-75] [see EB II 5-6]

Francis Browne [5]

Mabel Browne [3] m Sir Henry Capel

Jane Browne [4] m Sir Francis Lacon of Kinlet, Salop Knight ?1575-.... QV

Anthony Browne (of Battle Abbey, Sussex) 1552-1592

b Jul 1552

m Mary Dormer 3rd dau of Sir William Dormer of Eythorpe, Bucks K.B. c1537-1575

COLLINS VII 68-9]; m2 Sir Edmund Uvedale of Holt Park, Dorset c1556-a1606; m3 Sir

Thomas Gerard of Bryn, Lancs 1st Baronet 1560-1621 QV; Will (PCC) 23 Nov 1637

d before his father 29 Jun 1592 aged 39[sic]; i 1 Aug 1592

chn: Anthony Maria Browne [1] b 1 Feb 1573ù4 below

John Browne [2] m Ann Giffard; (and had chn: Stanislaus, George)

William Browne [3]

Dorothy Browne [1] m Edmund Lee Esquire

Jane Browne [2] m Sir Francis Englefield

Catherine Browne [3] m Treganian Esquire

Anthony Maria Browne 2nd Viscount Montagu 1574-1629

b 1 Feb 1573.4

m Jane Sackville dau of Thomas Sackville 1st Earl of Dorset 1536-1608 [..] [DNB]

chn: Francis Browne [1] (3rd Viscount)

Mary Browne [1] m William Baron St John of Basing

Catherine Browne [2] m William Tyrwhitt Esquire

Ann Browne [3] (a nun)

Lucy Browne [4] (a nun)

Frances Browne [5] m John Blomer of Hatherop, Glos c1597-.... QV;

M.I. (Hatherop)

Mary Browne [6] m (prenuptial settlement, 23 Nov 1620) Robert Petre 3rd Baron

Petre of Writtle c1597-1638 QV

BRD I; PEERAGE 1790 I 336-8; VIS.KENT.1619 217-8; CHECK CP (11/2/04)

BROWNE OF WALCOTT, NORTHANTS

ARMS: Azure a chevron between three escallops or a bordure engrailed gules

CREST:

John Browne of Oakham, Rutland

chn: John Browne below

Sir John Browne of London Knight c1430-1498

m1 Alice Swineshead dau and heir of William Swineshead

m2 Ann Bellwood of Lincs

d 1 Jan 1498; Will (PCC 18 Horne) 3 Nov 1497/25 Jan 1498

(of London mercer); (Alderman, Farringdon Within, London) 1470-88; (Master, Mercers) 1472 1477 1485 149?; (Sheriff, London) 1472-3; (Auditor) 1475-7; (Lord Mayor, London) 1480-1; (knighted) 6 Jan 1487; (Alderman, Cheap, London) 1488-98

chn: Robert Browne below

[2] William Browne (knighted); (Lord Mayor, London) 1508; (ancestor of BROWNE OF FLAMBARDS, ESSEX)

Robert Browne c1460-

m Isabel Sharpe dau and heir of Sir John Sharpe Knight
(Chancellor of the Exchequer)

chn: Robert Browne [1] b c1490 below

Edward Browne [2] (knighted); (of the Rhodes)

John Browne [3] b c1498 further below

Isabel Browne m George Quarles of Ufford, Northants c1475-1535 [BUT NOTE
VIS.NORTHANTS.168-9 192 has a man of this name marry Margaret Browne dau of
Thomas Browne of Walcott, Northants]

Olive Browne m Goodlack of Overton

Robert Browne of Walcott, Northants c1490-

m Elizabeth Palmer dau of Sir Edward Palmer of Angmering, Sussex Knight;

[? m2 Francis Ashby of Loseby, Leics c1490-.... [VIS.LEICS.1619 14]]

(of the privy chamber) 1523-4

chn: Robert Browne [1] b c1520 below

John Browne [2] b c1524; m Alice Dormer dau and coheir of Thomas Dormer c1505-
.... (son of Sir Michael Dormer Knight (Lord Mayor of London, 1541) c1475-1545

[COLLINS VII 66] ; (and had chn: (John m Wilgefort); (of Willey, Wilts)

Humphrey Browne [3] b c1528 further below

Lucy Browne m Humphrey Essex (brother of Thomas Essex)

Margaret Browne m Robert Hall of Grantham, Lincs c1508-.... QV

Cecily Browne m John Lambert of Coulston, Wilts

Olive Browne m William Keblewhite of Purton, Wilts

Bridget Browne m William Mompesson of Mayden Bradley, Wilts

Robert Browne of Walcott, Northants c1520-

m Margaret Barnard dau and heir of Philip Barnard of Aldenham [?Akenham], Essex; (she
mother of Sir Bernard Whetstone of Essex)

chn: William Browne below

Robert Browne below

Sir William Browne of Walcott, Northants K.B. c1550-1603

m Ann Copstock dau of Roger Copstock [? BUT SEE BELOW]

d 1603

(succeeded by his brother Robert)

Sir Robert Browne of Walcott, Northants 1st Baronet c1552-1624

m1 Ann Copstock dau of Roger Copstock [? BUT SEE ABOVE]

m2 Elizabeth Cope dau of Edward Cope of Hanwell, Oxon c1517-1557 QV; m1 Francis
Harvey-1607; m3 Sir Guy Palmes Knight

[or ? Elizabeth Doyly dau of John Doyly of Chiselhampton, Oxon]

d 1624; Will (...) 1624

(M.P., Lichfield) 1601; (created a Baronet) 1621

Humphrey Browne of St Leonard's Hall, Suffolk c1528-

b c1528 3rd son of Robert Browne of Walcott, Northants c1490-.... QV

m Ann Talmage dau and heir of Hugh Talmage of St Leonard's Hall, Suffolk Esquire;

b c1523; d aged 85; i 26 Nov 1608 Hanbury; M.I. [SHAW I 76]

chn: Peregrine Browne below
John Browne b c1562 below
Elizabeth Browne m George Brown of Yorks; (and had chn: George)

Peregrine Browne of Hanbury, Staffs c1558-
m Alice Brooke dau (? and heir) of Robert Brooke of Nantwich, Cheshire c1533-....
[VIS.CHESH.1613 44]; (but had no chn); m1 Thomas Stanninor; m2 Ralph Yardley; m3
Sir Ralph Egerton; m5 Brian Bowley

John Browne of Hanbury, Staffs c1562-
m Susan Stanninot dau and heir of Richard Stanninot
chn: Peregrine Browne c 13 Jul 1598 Hanbury
Eleanor Browne

John Browne of Narborow c1498-
b c1498 3rd son of Robert Browne c1460-.... QV
m Mary Stafford dau of Sir Humphrey Stafford Knight
chn: John Browne below

John Browne c1528-
m Frances Hall dau of Robert Hall of Grantham, Lincs c1508-.... QV

VIS.NORTHANTS.1618-9 167-8 (11/2/04)

Sir Samuel Browne Knight (M.P.) a1598-1668

(J.P., Staffs) 26 Apr 1647*

Browne, Sir Samuel (b. in or before 1598, d. 1668), politician and judge, was the son of Nicholas Browne, vicar of Polebrook, Northamptonshire and prebendary of Peterborough, and Frances, daughter of Thomas St John, third son of Oliver, Lord St John. He was admitted pensioner of Queens' College, Cambridge, on 24 February 1614 and entered Lincoln's Inn on 28 October 1616; he was called to the bar on 16 October 1623 and eventually elected reader in Michaelmas term 1642. About May 1629 he married Elizabeth, daughter of John Meade of Nortofts, Finchingfield, Essex.

Browne's renown derives less from his work as a jurist than from his astute performance as a parliamentary manager during the critical years of the English civil war. He was first elected to parliament in October 1641, representing part of Devon, and almost immediately assumed a leading role in close association with his cousin, Oliver St John, the future justice of common pleas during the interregnum. Though frequently associated with parliamentary radicals and their ideas, Browne, St John, and their associates were in fact political and religious moderates, committed to the preservation of England's constitutional monarchy, subject to the special limitations imposed in 1641, and to a tolerant, albeit Erastian, church settlement. They have been appropriately described as 'Royal Independents', because of their willingness vigorously to pursue military victory over Charles I in order to achieve these ends.

Browne's success as a parliamentary manager derived from his reputation as a man of genuine integrity. He was widely admired by moderates and radicals alike for his intelligence, his learning, and his consummate professionalism. It was doubtless that reputation (together with the influence of his patrons) which led to his appointment as a commissioner of the great seal in November 1643, a position he held until 1646. He was appointed to the committee to manage the impeachment of Archbishop Laud in March 1644 and took the lead in arguing successfully for Laud's attainder before the House of Lords the following January. In July 1645 he was appointed to chair the Commons committee investigating the so-called 'Savile affair', an accusation of high treason placed against leading moderates Denzil Holles and Bulstrode Whitelocke for their part in the Uxbridge negotiations. Browne pursued the accusation with considerable zeal in the face of substantial

evidence that the charges were in fact insupportable. He appears to have acted largely as St John's agent, and in the pursuit of a personal vendetta against Denzil Holles, and his own reputation for fairness was to some extent compromised as a result.

None the less, in November 1647 Browne was chosen to draft articles and preconditions for further negotiations with the king and the following September was nominated by the lower house to treat with the king at Newport, Isle of Wight. The proposed settlement in 1648 included a wholesale reconstruction of the judiciary which envisaged Browne's appointment as chief baron of the exchequer. That plan had to be amended for political reasons, and he was eventually made serjeant-at-law and instead appointed justice of king's bench.

In matters of religion Browne was an Erastian presbyterian. He played a key role in fashioning the settlement of 1645-6, working successfully to reconcile the conflicting demands of presbyterians, Independents, and his own middle group colleagues. It was Browne who suggested the establishment of a standing committee of Lords and Commons to act as arbiters of religious offences, in place of lay county commissioners, and he himself was elected a parliamentary trier in October 1645.

The failure of the Newport negotiations and the resulting trial and execution of the king led Browne to resign his seat on the bench and withdraw from public life altogether during the interregnum. He was eventually elected MP for Bedford in 1659, and for Bedfordshire in 1660. He was knighted by Charles II and rewarded for his loyalty during the interregnum with reinstatement as serjeant-at-law in Trinity term 1660 and with elevation to the bench of common pleas in the Michaelmas term following. He served as justice in common pleas until his death in London on 11 April 1668. He was buried at Arlesey in Bedfordshire, where he lived.

James S. Hart Jr
Sources

DNB · Foss, Judges, vol. 7 · B. Whitelocke, Memorials of English affairs, new edn, 4 vols. (1853), vol. 1, pp. 457-81; vol. 2, p. 459 · diary of Sir Simonds D'Ewes, BL, Harleian MS 145, fol. 224v · The journal of Sir Simonds D'Ewes from the first recess of the Long Parliament to the withdrawal of King Charles from London, ed. W. H. Coates (1942) · Mercurius Pragmaticus, 17 (4-11 Jan 1648) · JHC, 4 (1644-6), 506, 511, 518 · JHC, 5 (1646-8), 248, 330, 370 · JHL, 10 (1647-8), 566, 570 · The manuscripts of his grace the duke of Portland, 10 vols., HMC, 29 (1891-1931), vol. 1, p. 593 · V. Pearl, 'The Royal Independents in the English civil wars', TRHS, 5th ser., 18 (1968), 69-96 · V. Pearl, 'Oliver St John and the "middle group" in the Long Parliament, August 1643 - May 1644', EngHR, 81 (1966), 490-519 · D. Underdown, Pride's Purge: politics in the puritan revolution (1971), 68, 72-3, 87, 104, 113, 203 · P. Crawford, 'The Savile affair', EngHR, 90 (1975), 76-93 · W. Palmer, The political career of Oliver St. John, 1637-1649 (1993), 64, 83, 93-4, 96-7 · B. Worden, The Rump Parliament, 1648-1653 (1974), 179, 278 · M. W. Helms and L. Naylor, 'Browne, Samuel I', HoP, Commons, 1660-90
Likenesses

J. M. Wright, oils, Lincoln's Inn, London
Wealth at death

considerable wealth: Helms and Naylor, 'Browne, Samuel I'

John Browne of Stretton-en-le-Field, Leics c1581-1669

b c1581 son of Charles Browne and Margery Mulcaster

m1 26 Jun 1611 Swarkeston: Winifred Harpur dau of Sir John Harpur of Swarkeston, Derbys Knight
c1546-?1627

m2 6 Jun 1626 Burbage: Magdalen Grey dau of Anthony Grey 9th Earl of Kent 1557-1643; b 1596;
d 17 May 1669;

i 18 May 1669

chn: Elizabeth Browne c 19 Mar 1611 Swarkston

John Browne i 1 Dec 1614 Lullington

Barbara Browne c 4 Aug 1616 Swarkestone

Ann Browne c 21 Mar 1618 Swarkestone

John Browne b c1619; m 1648 Dorothy Brudenell dau of Thomas Brudenell of Stanton

Henry Browne i 21 Sep 1652

Isabel Browne unm.; i 8 Nov 1655 Stretton en le Field

Charles Browne i 15 Sep 1662

[2] Dorothy Browne m Edward George of Salop; living 1664

Sarah Browne m Anthony Haselwood of Burbach; d. 5 May 1666

Anne Browne i 31 Jul 1668

Christian Browne m Henry Adams of Stretton en le Field; living 1664

Mary Browne m Daniel Chadwick; living 1664

Magdalene Browne